

Arizona OCDETF Strike Force



- The Phoenix Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF Strike Force) is a multi-agency unit that focuses on investigations of command and control elements of the Sinaloa Cartel and Arizona-based distribution cells associated with the Cartel. The Strike Force was established in August 2008.
- The Phoenix Strike Force comprises investigators from DEA, ATF, IRS, ICE, USMS, Phoenix PD, and Maricopa County Sheriff's Office). Its mission is to disrupt and dismantle major drug trafficking organizations that have been designated by the U.S. Department of Justice as Consolidated Priority Organization Targets (CPOTs), Regional Priority Organization Targets (RPOTS) and affiliates within the Phoenix metropolitan area.
- Based on the success of the Phoenix Strike Force, in June 2009, an additional Strike Force Group was formed in the DEA Tucson District Office. The Tucson Strike Force consists of law enforcement personnel from DEA, ATF, ICE, FBI and South Tucson PD. Both Strike Force Groups continue to pursue OCDETF case designations for federal prosecution as a matter of course and work in a complementary role with the Arizona High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Program.
- Since its inception, the Phoenix Strike Force has conducted in excess of 370 Title-III intercepts of Sinaloa Cartel related Drug Trafficking Organizations; responsible for the seizure of over \$55,792,000 in assets; 341 arrests; 45,000 pounds of Marijuana; 355 pounds of methamphetamine; 816 pounds of cocaine; 7 pounds of heroin and over 500 weapons seized.
- The Phoenix OCDETF Strike Force brings a synergy to drug trafficking investigations by combining, side-by side, the resources and expertise of all participating investigative agents and prosecutors. By coordinating their efforts in that way, the OCDETF Strike Force has achieved great success against the major Mexican cartels.

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